



BRIEF TEXAS NEWS FROM OVER THE STATE

By Chopsie S. Welsch

TARRANT DISTRICT JUDGE DISCUSSES DIVORCES

Judge Ben M. Terrell of the Sixty-seventh district court of Tarrant County, after a year's experiment in refusing to grant divorces right off the bat at the first hearing, believes he has partially solved the problem that is threatening the very vitals of civilization. It is the opinion of Judge Terrell that the law regarding remarriage of either party should be made more drastic, and the law prohibiting either party from remarrying in six months should be made effective, and in cases where children are involved, decrees should only be granted for adultery.

In the year that Judge Terrell has been experimenting, approximately fifty per cent of the divorce proceedings brought in his court have been marked "settled." He has made it a practice to hold up his decision for a long period, pending a private investigation, and during the time the investigation is in progress efforts are made to get the disgruntled parties to come together.

In approximately 75 per cent of the cases before that court, a reconciliation has been effected. However, in a majority of the cases where reconciliation has been effected, children have been involved. In no case is divorce granted where children are involved until the court is satisfied that the child, or children, will be well cared for by either one of the parents.

The plan of procedure followed by Judge Terrell is that when the case is called, he requires both parties to be present when possible, and if it is impossible for both parties to be present, he hears one side of the case, with some officer of the court present. The testimony taken is turned over to some humane officer, or some member of the probation court with instructions to make a thorough investigation of the circumstances surrounding the litigant parties.

That investigation is of a private nature. In the meantime, the court does what it can to get the couple together and usually after a few minutes lecturing and getting them to talk, they leave the court room arm in arm, and the case is marked "dismissed."

In discussing his experiment, Judge Terrell declared that the divorce laws should be revised and that decrees should be granted only for three causes. One of these causes should be unfaithfulness, the other that of abandonment, after it has clearly been established that the abandonment is for a period of years and not a few months, and the third where either party has been convicted of felony.

As to the injunction law now on the books, the judge declares that this law should be amended and a penalty attached to it that would stop either party from marrying within six months; as it is now, the law has no penalty and the only relief is for the court to hold one who breaks it in contempt.

He attributes a large per cent of the divorce cases to too hasty marriages, and the ease with which couples can obtain a separation.

FEDERAL OFFICIALS TO PROBE MEAT PRICES

United States District Attorney R. E. Taylor of Fort Worth, who has been conducting an investigation into the cause of the advance in the price of ice throughout North Texas will include all food stuff in his probe. This official recently compelled the bakers of Fort Worth to come down on the price obtained for bread, when an effort was made to further advance it.

The new investigation will be aimed at meat sellers, whom the federal authorities believe are violating the Lever act. Since beginning the probe, the price of bread has declined proportionately to the price of wheat and an ordinary loaf of bread may now be obtained for a dime.

The price of meat sold to the consumer has not declined proportionately to the decline in what is paid the producer of meat animals—Cattle, hogs or sheep.

DALLAS WAITERS FILE SUIT AGAINST RESTAURANTS

Alleging that four restaurants in Dallas had violated their contract entered into with the Cooks and Waiters union, suits aggregating approximately \$40,000 damages was filed in the Dallas district court.

Recently in Fort Worth, the Greek restaurateurs obtained an injunction against the Cooks and Waiters union forbidding the members of that organization to patrol in front of their places of business. The suit filed in Dallas is a counter move against the open shop policy of the restaurant keepers in Texas.

FORT WORTH BOY DOES RELIEF WORK IN RUSSIA

According to word received at Fort Worth Elbert Naugle, Texas lad, is a member of the party of young Americans, all Rhodes scholars, sent from Oxford University to Berlin to assist in the Y. M. C. A. relief work in connection with the repatriation of Russian prisoners.

CEMENT BEDS

Interest is being revived in the cement beds in the mountain south of Rising Star in view of the present scarcity of cement and the immense building campaign that is forecast by the development of the local oil field.

According to a geological report to the West Texas Chamber of Commerce the cement beds are reported among the largest in the country and of a superior grade of cement. Development of the beds would be easy and light in expense by reason of the gas available in this section. The sand in this region is also good for making cement blocks, a few buildings of which have been erected in Rising Star.

Rising star is situated not only favorably for the development of its oil resources, but it has building material and natural resources

which are now being studied with a view to early exploitation, according to statements recently made.

IMPORTATION OF VEGETABLE OILS HURTS COTTON SEED INDUSTRY

Ed Woodall, an oil mill operator of Hillsboro, has compiled a number of statistics in support of the contention of the mill owners for reducing the price offered the farmers for their 1920 cotton seed.

According to Woodall, the consumption of oil has shown a decrease while the importation of vegetable oil from foreign countries has shown a big increase. The figures below showing the amount of oil imported, was obtained from the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and are as follows:

| | Pounds. |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Chinese nut oil | 11,000,000 |
| Cocanut oil, or copra | 269,000,000 |
| Foreign cottonseed oil | 24,000,000 |
| Olive oil | 7,000,000 |
| Palm oil | 50,000,000 |
| Oriental peanut oil | 22,000,000 |
| Rape seed oil | 1,000,000 |
| Soya bean oil | 196,000,000 |
| Or a total of | 580,000,000 |

Woodall also contends that the decline in the price of all vegetable oils since January of this year has been enough to warrant the reduction offered the farmers for their product.

The importation of oils from China and continental Europe is a serious menace to the cotton oil industry of the United States.

STATE NORMALS HELP SUPPLY TEACHER DEMAND

Within the past two weeks the two state institutions at Denton, Texas, have sent out more than 200 teachers to meet the demand for schools throughout the state.

The recent voluntary wage increases granted teachers throughout Texas has had the effect of encouraging more men and women to join the profession.

The enrollment figures obtained from the various state institutions the past summer show more than 1,500 students matriculated at the two institutions in Denton. In the past year more than 1,800 were sent out over the state to meet the requirements to build up schools. Students at the two colleges at Denton were from 15 counties in Texas and from eleven other states.

In Southwest Texas, a class of more than 100 recently graduated from the institution at San Marcos. A majority of these teachers will remain in Texas. A large number of the students attending the summer normals have had some experience in teaching and attended the institutions to increase their usefulness by advancing from one grade to a higher or making their certificates permanent.

CATON PLANS TO FINANCE COTTON MILLS

The "Give-a-bale-of-Cotton" plan of Thomas M. Caton, pioneer Jones County farmer, for financing the erection of a chain of cotton mills in West Texas, is becoming popular in West Texas, according to W. K. Whipple, who is studying the cotton situation of West Texas and preparing to start a campaign shortly in Jones County for the fructification of the Caton cotton mill plans.

Nolan, Howard, Mitchell, Jones, Taylor and other counties are interested in the Caton plan. One farmer near Sweetwater recently declared that he has been pressed by a number of Jones County farmers to espouse the plan and help put it on its feet by pledging many bales of cotton.

The town of Spur has also some disciples of the mill measure and probably as many as 50 bales of cotton have been tentatively pledged without support for a mill should it be built in Stamford. Recently a number of persons representing themselves as interested in the mill project of Jones and adjoining counties have applied for detailed information on cotton production by countries, water supplies and other facts that might give them proper material for convincing arguments to be presented to large cotton operators of the North.

While it is understood that some of the Eastern mills would probably stringently oppose the creation of another large cotton mill zone in the nation, efforts toward putting over cotton mill projects seem undiminished and their promoters undismayed. The prosperity of the West has been revamped by another prosperous period, until farmers themselves are lords of the exchequer and purpose to bring about their own salvation.

AUTO TAKES FLYING LEAP; OCCUPANTS ESCAPE INJURY

The late Ormer Locklear, famous bird man, had nothing on an auto party from Sherman several days ago when the machine in which they were riding took a flying leap from a twenty-five-foot bluff on the Colbert road near Sherman and landed right side up with care, and all escaped injury. The accident happened near Red River on the Texas side.

Those in the car were Henry Jones, Mrs. Jones, O. J. Parker and wife. Two cars attempted to pass on a narrow road on the side of which was a bluff.

HILL COUNTY PHILANTHROPIST DONATES FARM TO CHARITY

A Hill County philanthropist recently donated to the Salvation Army a tract of 181 acres of rich Hill County land for the purpose of establishing an industrial home for boys and girls. The sole consideration announced in the deed of conveyance is that the property be used for charitable and religious purposes.

In addition to donating the land, the same party gave to the Salvation Army \$35,000 worth of Liberty bonds to be used in constructing necessary buildings and otherwise equip the plant.

LIGHTNING STRIKES UMBRELLA WITHOUT INJURING ITS CARRIER

Lightning struck the handle of an umbrella held by a woman in a recent electrical storm at Amarillo, tearing the umbrella to pieces and turning the woman completely around without injuring her.

UNIVERSITY "Y" GIRLS PROVIDE MISSIONARY

Miss Nancy Lee Swan, a graduate of the University of Texas and for six years missionary to China, will represent the students of that institution in the missionary field next year, going as a Y. W. C. A. foreign secretary. This comes as the result of a movement started among the students during the past session by the Young Woman's Christian Association of the University; an appropriation for the support of a foreign representative is now included in the annual budget of that organization, to which practically all women students in the University subscribe.

It seemed particularly fitting to those at the head of the movement that Miss Swan should be selected as the first representative of the University students, on account of her record while in school, as well as her training in the foreign field. She received her B. A. degree in June, 1906, and was one of the four graduates of that class to be elected to Phi Beta Kappa, the honorary society based on scholarship. In 1912 Miss Swan went to China as a missionary under the Baptist Denominational Board. After seven years of work in the field, she returned to the University in the fall of 1919 to take the work for her Master's degree, which she will receive on August 31, at the Summer School Commencement. She will leave for China early in September.

WATSON OF BRYAN WINS EDMOND SCHOLARSHIP

James P. Watson of Bryan is to be the first recipient of the James A. Edmond loan scholarship of the University of Texas, according to announcement of the committee on award. This scholarship was established by Miss Belle Edmond of Waco in memory of her nephew, better known as "Pete" Edmond, B. A. '16 and M. A. '18, widely known student and athlete of the University, who was killed in foreign service. It is provided that the scholarship shall be awarded only to those who have already proved their ability by actual experience in the University of Texas, preference being given to students of the social sciences.

Mr. Watson, who has just received the award of this scholarship, is a sophomore in the University. He entered last September as a student on individual approval, his three years of military service having interfered with preparatory work. In spite of the handicap, he made an excellent record in the University, and was one of the few students whose name appeared regularly on the honor roll.

RARE MANUSCRIPTS ADDED TO THE TEXAS UNIVERSITY

The collection of rare books and manuscripts in the Wrenn Library of the University of Texas has recently been greatly supplemented by an almost priceless gift from T. J. Wise of London, who was associated with the late J. W. Wrenn in establishing the library.

The main feature of the gift from Mr. Wise is some 25 items of Swinburne, which Mr. Wise had printed from the manuscript in his possession. These privately printed ventures were made during the last three years, and several of them have introductions by Edmund Gosse. They contained ballads that have never before been printed, early letters, unpublished poems, translations from the French and short prose tales, which Mr. Watts-Dunton, the literary executor of Swinburne, found in the author's room in manuscript form.

Other rare articles of the collection are the privately printed letters of both Robert Browning and Elizabeth Barrett Browning and items from Charlotte, Emily, and Anne Bronte, as well as ten items by George Barrow, which contain ballads, translations and folk tales.

ERWIN MURDER MYSTERY IS PROBABLY SOLVED

In the arrest of J. W. Lowman at Winfield, Kas., several days ago, Tarrant and Parker County officers believe they have the mystery solved surrounding the murder of Herschell Erwin who was killed early in the spring near the Parker County line. The clew that led to the arrest of Lowman was obtained when the auto owned by Erwin at the time of his death was found in a barn at Winfield, and Lowman was identified as the party who left the stolen auto there.

Erwin following his discharge from the army bought a Dodge car and engaged in the auto passenger transfer business. He was employed by some one to take them on a trip and that was the last seen of Erwin after he left Weatherford until his dead body was found in Tarrant County at a lonely spot on the roadside.

FORT WORTH BOY SELLS PLAY TO BIG PRODUCER

David Carb, a Fort Worth lad who saw service with the Red Cross in France before America entered the world's war, and who afterwards served as an under lieutenant in the French army, recently sold a play to J. J. Brady, the great theatrical producer in New York.

Mr. Carb was reared in Fort Worth and attended the University of Texas and Harvard University. Upon his graduation from Harvard, he entered the library field and engaged in play writing. He is one of the many Texans who has made good in the East.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS TO SURVEY TEXAS

Information received at Stamford is to effect that a party of archaeologists Smithsonian Institute propose to make a thorough survey of the mounds in West Texas an effort to find evidence of a prehistoric and antediluvian animals.

In recent years a number of mammal have been found in different localities, scientists, and it is believed that the whole lower plains country and the section as the Pecos Valley was once inhabited peculiar race of cliff dwellers.

COLORADO-TO-GULF CONVENTION MEET IN FORT WORTH

The 1920 convention of the Colorado-to-Highway Association will be held in Fort Worth next April, (the date of the month has not yet been selected.) This is one of the least arteries of commerce in the southwest traverses the rich Panhandle and plains of Texas. It is one of the highways has received special aid from the Federal government.

CALF BRANDING RECORD BROKE IN PANHANDLE

At a recent round-up on a Matador Co. ranch, 711 calves were branded in eight hours. So far as known this is a new record in southwest.

To perform this stupendous task required 25 men all day, who did not stop more than minutes for refreshments. The stunt was ed off on the Maggard ranch.

SCIENTISTS STUDY TERLINGUA DEPOSITS

Walter S. Adkins, Curator of the Bureau Economic Geology and Technology at University of Texas, accompanied by Edmond B. S. and Miss Margaret Stiles, assistants in Economic Geology Division of the Bureau making an extensive oil geological survey what is known as the Terlingua district West Texas. Alpine is at present the center of operations. The party is expecting to do a month to the survey.

PROPOSED NEW RAILROAD WILL PENETRATE COAL FIELDS

The proposed Fort Worth & Northwest railroad, if built through Eliasville and Cr. Falls, will penetrate some of the largest resources of the state and help Fort Worth secure cheaper and better fuel, it was stated by the Fort Worth Commercial Club. The is of a superior quality leaving little ash and being burned and is mined with a minimum expense.

SAY RUSSIANS HAVE DROPPED TO STONE

Russian peasants have reverted to the life of the stone age and learned to dispense with benefits of modern civilization, declared German manufacturers who arrived in Swit. land after startling experiences while trading with Russia.

The peasants, they say, spin their own wool and woolen, tan the hides of their own cattle and make their own clothes and shoes at home. Knives and axes are fashioned of flint and pre-historic times. The villagers' houses are lighted by pine torches.

German manufacturers had accumulated stocks of manufactured goods expecting to make fortunes selling them to Russia, but the soviet government is not willing to spend money on anything except railroad material and machinery and the country people are perfectly satisfied with the primitive life they are living. So called Russian peasant industries, which are always a characteristic feature of Russia, have been vastly stimulated by the economic crisis of the last two years. Consignments of German goods have come back sold. The German manufacturers in question say they are facing ruin.

STORY OF THE PIN

It is only about a century since the manufacture of pins by machinery began. Before that time they were hammered out by hand, and, of course, were much more costly than now. The earliest pin undoubtedly was a thorn but bone and bronzepins have been found prehistoric ruins.

In 1817 the first patent for the making pins by machinery was granted, and since then there have been many improvements. The first machine-made pins had heads separated from the shank, the head being fastened on with wire.

By the newer methods the solid head pin made in one piece. Wire of a suitable gauge is run off a reel and is nipped between jaws. The piece of wire is headed by a die and pushed by a revolving cutter. The pins so made are cleaned by boiling and are laid in a copper pan with alternate layers of grained tin. The contents of the pan are sprinkled with arsenic (bitartrate of potash) and boiled for six hours the pin thus becoming coated with tin. They are then washed, dried and polished in a barrel containing bran.

AFRICAN BELOW PAR PHYSICALLY

There are 1,000,000 blind and at least 400,000 deaf in China. India has 500,000 blind. Nearly five per cent of the population of Cairo is said to be physically defective, usually blind or half blind. The natives of the African jungle, instead of being the lusty savages of imagination are for the most part physically below par. The majority of them are malnourished and diseased and marked physical defects are common.

Through the fall and winter of 1919 Llan pasas shipped about 12 cars of pecans.